

Enhancing the role of the supreme judicial authorities in respect of European standards

Project summary

Project title	Enhancing the role of the supreme judicial authorities in respect of European standards
Country	Turkey
Budget	4 014 000 €
Funding	EU/CoE Joint Programme
Duration	46 months (January 2010 – October 2013)
Partners and beneficiaries	Constitutional Court of Turkey, High Council of Judges and Prosecutors, Court of Cassation and Council of State, as well as judges of the superior order of the judiciary, judges and prosecutors represented at the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors.
Main objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To contribute to enhancing the role of the superior judiciary in Turkey in initiating new changes in the normative framework and its implementation in line with the acquis, the rights and freedoms of the ECHR, the provisions of the ESC and other European standards, - To enhance the respective roles of the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors and of the Higher Courts (Constitutional Court, Court of Cassation and State Council) as the supreme judicial authorities in the accession process and in the adoption of the European high judicial standards.
Outputs and results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The awareness of the members of the partner institutions was raised on the EU institutions, their decision making processes and the acquis, as well as on the implications of Article 90 of the Turkish Constitution, the ECHR, the case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) and the execution of the ECtHR's judgments, and the ESC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 10 Round table seminars on the ECHR and the ESC, ▪ 27 study visits (SV) to EU and CoE institutions for 505 persons from the Beneficiaries, ▪ 16 Conferences in Turkey. 2. Co-operation of the HCJP and of the Higher Courts as superior

	<p>judicial authorities with equivalent European institutions was promoted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Placement of 42 reporter judges from the partner institutions at the ECtHR for six months or at the CoE and other European institutions for 1 month; <p>3. Ability of the CC to apply the ECHR within the constitutional review process, especially in the case of individual applications was promoted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of a website for the IA system ▪ Needs assessment study for the CC ▪ Capacity-building of a special liaison unit: 4 training sessions ▪ RT seminars <p>4. Public awareness of the Turkish judiciary system (including the referendum and the introduction of individual applications) was increased:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of a project website to inform all legal professionals and public on the outcomes of the project ▪ Publication of leaflets, broadcasting of radio/TV spots ▪ Two public opinion polls on the right to IA before the CC.
Follow-up	<p>A bridging project “Supporting the Individual Application to the Constitutional Court in Turkey (SIAC)” was developed.</p>